

## Online resources for aid administrators

- [Higher Education Coordinating Board Web site](#)
- [HECB secure Web site for aid administrators](#)
- [State Need Grant](#)
- [State Work Study](#)
- [Washington Promise Scholarship](#)
- [Educational Opportunity Grant](#)
- [Washington Scholars Program](#)
- [WAVE](#)
- [Other state aid programs](#)
- [Past issues of the \*Financial Aid News\* and other publications](#)
- [Washington Financial Aid Association](#)
- [Washington State Association of Student Employment Administrators](#)
- [Western Association of Financial Aid Administrators](#)
- [Western Association of Student Employment Administrators](#)
- [National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators](#)



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# WASHINGTON HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD

**Issue 49 — May 20, 2005**

## In this issue:

- **Governor Gregoire Signs 2005-07 Budgets**
- **2005 Legislative Session Wrap-up**
- **Position Opening at HECB for Financial Aid Professional**
- **State Work Study Community Service Project Competition Open Until June 1**
- **Pre-paid Tuition Program Growing and Changing**

## Governor signs 2005-07 budget

### Final spending package includes major SNG enhancement

The governor this week signed the 2005-07 operating and capital budgets into law. Lawmakers added higher education policy enhancements worth \$243.2 million to last biennium's operating budget, bringing the two-year total for higher education to approximately \$3.1 billion.

The state's largest aid program, the **State Need Grant**, received \$69.7 million in additional funding. Eligibility for the grant was increased to 65 percent of the state median family income (MFI), from 55 percent MFI last year. The increased funds are intended to keep pace with tuition increases, assumed to be 7 percent at research universities, 6 percent at comprehensives and 5 percent at community and technical colleges. Legislators also directed the HECB to develop a pilot project at up to 10 colleges to provide the Need Grant to students who are enrolled less than half time.

The **Work Study** program was funded to keep pace with the same tuition increases. **WAVE** and **Washington Scholars** awards will be maintained at 100 percent of tuition, although the Washington Scholars program will be reduced from three recipients per legislative district to two per district beginning with the high school graduating class of 2006.

High school students graduating this spring will not be eligible to receive the **Promise Scholarship**. The program was eliminated, but funding was provided for the second year of awards to 2004 graduates.

The **Future Teachers** scholarship and loan repayment programs received a \$500,000 appropriation. A new **Foster Care Endowed Scholarship** was approved, as was a priority for former foster care youth in receiving State Need Grant and State Work Study awards.

## 2005-07 Final Legislative Budget Highlights

Program / Expenditure	Final 2005-07 Operating Budget
<b>Maximum tuition increases set at:</b>	7% Research Universities 6% Comprehensives & TESC 5% Community and Technical Colleges
<b>State Need Grant</b>	\$69.7 million to increase eligibility to 65% MFI, and to keep pace with tuition increases.
<b>State Work Study</b>	\$2.9 million to keep pace with tuition increases.
<b>Promise Scholarship</b>	Eliminated for the class of 2005 and beyond. Second-year awards to class of 2004 are funded.
<b>Washington Scholars and WAVE</b>	Number of Scholars recipients reduced from three per legislative district to two, beginning with class of 2006. Number of WAVE recipients remains unchanged at three per district. Maintains awards at 100 percent of tuition.
<b>Biennial Enrollment Increases:</b>	
<b>Four-year</b>	3,695
<b>Two-year</b>	4,185

Funding was also provided for: adult basic education enhancements, veterinary medicine, branch campus expansions, and a comprehensive higher education study that was proposed by the governor, as well as other smaller projects.

The HEBC had hoped to see funding for a statewide transfer advising system and for a student-level data system, but neither was included in the final budget proposal.

The capital budget included \$922 million for higher education construction.

The final legislative budget proposal can be viewed online at:  
<http://leap.leg.wa.gov/leap/budget/detail/2005/o0507f.asp>.

## 2005 legislative session wrap-up

### Overall positive response to higher education agenda

The 2005-06 legislative session was very productive for higher education. The following higher education-related bills were passed by both the House and Senate, and have been signed into law by Governor Gregoire:

### Higher Education Legislation Passed During 2005 Session

Bill Number	Background/Effects
<b>HB 1050</b>	Creates a <b>foster care endowed scholarship</b> .
<b>HB 1079</b>	Establishes a <b>multi-agency committee</b> to coordinate state education and job training programs for foster youth.
<b>HB 1100</b>	Establishes a <b>financial aid account</b> in which unspent funds may be retained for the following year. The bill was supported by the HECB, the Washington Financial Aid Association, and the Washington State Association of Student Employment Administrators. Several similar bills have been introduced in previous years without success.
<b>HB 1345</b>	Establishes a <b>pilot project</b> to investigate State Need Grant for less-than-halftime students.
<b>HB 1607</b>	Adds the <b>Samish Indian Nation</b> to the list of recognized tribes for whom Washington state residency is assumed for the purpose of tuition and fees.
<b>HB 1794</b>	Authorizes lower-division courses and freshman and sophomore admissions at the UW <b>branch campuses</b> in Bothell and Tacoma and the WSU branches at Vancouver and the Tri-Cities. Also authorizes development of four <b>applied baccalaureate degree</b> pilot projects. The goal of the pilot is to examine issuance of four-year applied baccalaureate degrees by community and technical colleges as an option to expand student access to bachelor's degree programs.
<b>SB 5441</b>	Lays out the governor's proposal to study the state's early learning, K-12, and higher education systems, and the legislative operating budget includes \$1.7 million in project funding. The <b>higher education study</b> will address financing options, enrollment distribution, tuition and financial aid, instructional costs, K-12-to-higher education transitions, and other issues.
<b>SB 5506</b>	Requires institutions to develop policies on <b>credit card marketing</b> to students on college campuses, considering material inducements, limits on times and locations, and registration of marketers.

## **HECB seeks Program Performance and Improvement Specialist with**

**background in financial aid**

**Position closes Tuesday, May 31**

The Higher Education Coordinating Board has created a Program Performance and Improvement Specialist position, and is seeking applicants from the financial aid community. The position is charged with ensuring that the outcomes of state financial aid programs match their intent. The Specialist will work closely with colleges and universities in developing performance measures and improvement initiatives, with a focus on quality and efficiency.

For more information or to request application materials, please access the HECB Web site at: <http://www.hecb.wa.gov/about/employ/employindex.asp>, or contact Kerri McConnell at 360-753-7857.

## **State Work Study community service project competition open until June 1**

Building community networks. Creating community alliances. Preserving and telling the history of Washington state. Reaching across cultures. Restoring salmon habitat. For over ten years, the HECB has sponsored community service projects like these to promote civic engagement and service among students eligible for the Washington State Work Study (SWS) program.

The HECB is sponsoring a Request for Proposals (RFP) to fund SWS community service projects for 2005-06. **Proposals are due June 1, 2005.** RFP forms are available to download by accessing the "Community Service" link on the Board's Web site at: <http://www.hecb.wa.gov/financialaid/sws/swsindex.asp>.

Funds provide student wages, as well as modest funds for administrative purposes. Institutions usually receive about \$35,000 (in addition to the regular reserve) to employ five to seven work-study-eligible college students dedicated to the community need described in the proposal.

This year's new awards will be announced in July.

In addition to meeting major SWS program goals—of helping needy students pay for college and gain relevant work experience—these projects allow colleges and communities to collaborate, pool resources, and share knowledge and expertise as they identify community problems and design civic-based approaches to address them. As a result, students anchor their own learning and secure a better understanding of their place in the world.

Please contact Juliette Knight at (360) 753-7842 or [juliettek@hecb.wa.gov](mailto:juliettek@hecb.wa.gov) with any questions.

## **State's pre-paid tuition program growing and changing**

**New account enrollment closed for 2004-05; Re-opens in September**

Washington's Guaranteed Education Tuition program, or GET, is doing better than ever, with over 11,000 new enrollments during the 2004-05 enrollment period, and positive changes made by the state legislature.

GET allows families to save for college while reducing the impact of future tuition increases. The GET program works on a unit system, with 100 units equaling one year's tuition at the University of Washington regardless of when they are used. Students attending less expensive colleges and universities can use the difference to cover other approved education-related expenses.

Since GET began in 1998, Washington families have opened more than 55,100 accounts valued at over \$620 million. And more than 3,000 Washington students have used their accounts to go to college.

"No other investment vehicle can guarantee that your money will keep pace with rising tuition costs," said GET Director Betty Lochner. "With college tuition increasing nearly 40 percent over the past four years, GET is a very attractive investment for many families."

This year, the House and Senate unanimously passed SB 5926 to permit GET enrollments when either the purchaser or beneficiary is a Washington resident. Previously it was required that the student using the benefits be a Washington resident at the time the account was opened.

The bill also provides bankruptcy protection for funds set aside for college in a GET account. All funds placed in a GET account more than two years prior to a bankruptcy filing will be protected from creditors.

The current unit price of \$66 will be in effect until August 31, 2005. New enrollments for 2005-06 will begin September 15, 2005 and end March 31, 2006.

### **GET Program Payment Update**

Beginning with the fall term of the 2005 academic year, GET account-holders will be requesting their school payments directly from the GET program. Financial Aid and Student Accounts staff may view students' eligible dollars and requested amounts through our secure Web site.

Please call Cindy at 1-800-955-2318 if you have additional questions about our new payment process.